

Chetan Bhagat (b. 1974)

➤ Chetan Prakash Bhagat

➤ **Born:** 22 April 1974

Delhi, India

➤ **Notable works:**

- Five Point Someone (2004)
- 2 States: The Story of My Marriage (2009)
- The 3 Mistakes of My Life (2008)
- Half Girlfriend (2014)

➤ **Indian author and columnist** (A columnist is a person who writes for publication in a series, creating an article that usually offers commentary and opinions. Columns appear in newspapers, magazines and other publications, including blogs. They take the form of a short essay by a specific writer who offers a personal point of view. In some instances, a column has been written by a composite or a team, appearing under a pseudonym, or (in effect) a brand name. Some columnists appear on a daily or weekly basis and later reprint the same material in book collections).

➤ He was *included in Time magazine's list of World's 100 Most Influential People in 2010.*

➤ *Listed '47' among the "100 Most Creative People 2011"* by the Fast Company American business magazine and business media brand.

➤ *Ranked No. 82 on the 2017 Forbes India Celebrity 100 list.*

➤ *Won Zee Cine Award for best story in 2014.*

➤ In 2008, The New York Times called Bhagat *"the biggest selling English language novelist in India's history"*.

➤ *"Many writers are successful at expressing what's in their hearts or articulating a particular point of view. Chetan Bhagat's books do both and more."* _ A.R. Rehman, in TIME magazine, on Chetan's inclusion in the TIME 100 most influential people in the world.

➤ *'India's paperback king.'* _ The Guardian

➤ *'A rockstar of Indian publishing.'* _ The Times of India

➤ *'Bhagat has touched a nerve with young Indian readers and acquired almost cult status.'*
_ International Herald Tribune

➤ *'Bhagat is a symbol of new India. A torch-bearer for an unafraid generation...'* _ India Today

➤ Bhagat graduated in mechanical engineering at IIT Delhi and completed a PGP at IIM Ahmedabad.

➤ His first novel, Five Point Someone, was published in 2004.

➤ Five of Chetan Bhagat's novels have been adapted into Bollywood films like Hello in 2008 (based on One Night @ the Call Center), 3 Idiots in 2009 (based on Five Point Someone), Kai Po Che! in 2013 (based on The 3 Mistakes of My Life); 2 States in 2014 (based on his novel of the same name) and Half Girlfriend in 2017 (based on his novel of the same name).

➤ Bhagat has also written the scripts for Bollywood films like Kick in 2014.

➤ Bhagat *won the Filmfare Award for Best Screenplay for Kai Po Che!* at the 59th Filmfare Awards in 2014.

➤ His latest novel 400 Days which is based on a missing child and forbidden love was released on 8 October 2021.

➤ In June 2018, IIMA awarded him the *"Young Alumni Achiever's Awards 2018"* in the Art & Entertainment category.

➤ In 2009, he quit his banking career to write full-time.

➤ Bhagat is also a popular motivational speaker and has spoken at more than 300 organizations in 50 cities around the world.

➤ Bhagat has been criticized for his writing skills. He was accused of plagiarism in 2017 for his novel One Indian Girl, which he denied.

➤ In April 2017, the University of Delhi's decision to include Bhagat's novel Five Point Someone as part of the English literature syllabus was criticised. In September 2017 the university announced that they had kept this decision on hold. Sweta Kaushal from the Hindustan Times wrote an article requesting Bhagat to stop writing books and just focus on Bollywood.

➤ **Works:**

• **Novels:**

1. Five Point Someone (2004)
2. One Night @ the Call Center (2005)
3. The 3 Mistakes of My Life (2008)

4. 2 States (2009)
 5. Revolution 2020 (2011)
 6. Half Girlfriend (2014)
 7. One Indian Girl (2016)
 8. The Girl in Room 105 (2018)
 9. One Arranged Murder(2020)
 10. 400 Days (2021)
- **Non-fiction:**
 1. What Young India Wants (2012)
 2. Making India Awesome (2015)
 3. India Positive (2019)

- **The 3 Mistakes of My Life (2008)**
 - ‘Admiration passes, love endures.’
 - ‘life is tough when you are always talking to people smarter than you.’
- **One Night @ the Call Center (2005)**
 - ‘We were talking a lot, but we weren't communicating at all.’
- **Revolution 2020 (2011)**
 - ‘Love makes us do stupid things.’
 - ‘Successful people don’t have friends.’
 - ‘Telling your parents you’ve failed at something is harder than the actual failure.’
 - ‘Girls have no idea what effect their wavering has on boys.’
 - ‘When you screw up someone’s life, the least you can do is leave the person alone.’
 - ‘It is amazing how the brain will connect one thought to another until it gets to where it wants to be.’
 - ‘Practical enough to leave the people who do the funny stuff alone.’
 - ‘That’s what human relationships are about – selective sharing and hiding of information to the point of crazy confusion.’
- **Half Girlfriend (2014)**
 - ‘I wanted to tell her I had never seen a girl more beautiful than her. I wanted to tell her that the oxygen flow to my lungs had stopped.’
 - ‘What you say matters, not the language.’
 - ‘Some say there is an exact moment when you fall in love. I didn’t know if it was true before, but I do now.’
 - ‘I didn’t know if I was a real prince or not, but I had found my princess.’
 - ‘She continued to talk and I continued to listen, even though my entire attention was on how lovely her hand felt in mine.’
 - ‘Ignore girls and they can’t leave you alone.’
 - ‘I leaned forward to kiss her. At the last moment she moved her face away and I ended up kissing her cheek.’
 - ‘I bent forward and gave her a light peck on her lips. She didn’t protest, but didn’t join in either. Her lips felt soft and warm. I gave her another peck.’
 - ‘There are things some people can never understand. There’s no point telling them.’
 - ‘She knocked the side of my head. The contact made me feel a bit drunk. I guess guys are born with this defect. Once they like a girl, even an accidental touch can be intoxicating.’
 - ‘“Shh...” I said and kept my hand on her mouth. I came forward and kissed my fingers placed on her lips. Her eyes blinked in surprise. I removed my fingers. My lips landed on hers. We had kissed exactly three years, four months and eleven days ago. She put her arms around me as if to keep her balance. The kiss was light at first, and then picked up intensity. Frogs croaked, crickets chirped and the breeze soared as Dumraon’s night sky witnessed Bihar’s, if not the world’s, best kiss ever.’
